

Library

Mission. The mission of the Wichita Public Library is to provide a community-focused system which actively promotes access to resources, services, and facilities to meet the informational, educational, and leisure needs of adults and children in the greater Wichita area.

Overview. The Wichita Public Library operates a central downtown facility, two district or regional libraries, and nine neighborhood branches. Branch libraries alternately offer service Mondays through Sundays, and the district and downtown libraries are open seven days a week.

Each library facility contains a broad range of popular reading materials, including books, magazines, and newspapers. Music, videos, and artwork are available for checkout. Access to the Internet is available at workstations in several facilities, and the library system also offers a variety of reading and other community outreach programs to the citizens of Wichita.



Dozens of children attend weekly storytime hour, shown here at the Main Library.

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The Wichita Public Library consists of five operating divisions: Administrative Services, Adult Public Services, Extension Services, Public Service Support, and Youth Services. The Extension Division supports the operating budgets of all district and branch facilities.

Operating resources include the General Fund and various grants. Donations from the Friends of the Library and the Wichita Public Library Foundation fund various special projects. The Wichita Public Library Foundation recently reached its goal of raising \$1.5 million in conjunction with a challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Library received over \$63,000 from interest earned in 2000, which will be

used for books and programming. Planned uses for the \$2 million in total funding are for humanities-related materials, such as special book collections and lectures.



Citizens explore the capabilities of the Library's new Technology Training Center, which opened in Fall 2000.

The Library opened its new Technology Training Center at the Central Library in September 2000. The facility has 10 computer workstations and 1 trainer workstation, awarded to the Library from the Gates Grant. Twenty-four other workstations were also awarded by the grant, which were distributed among five specified branch libraries. Aley, Angelou Northeast, Linwood, Minisa, and Planeview each received 4 computers. The City worked in conjunction with the receipt of the grant to construct the lab which houses the computers at the main library, as well as to remodel the genealogy area to make room for the microfilm readers, which previously resided where the technology lab was built.

The Library system's long-term strategy is to consolidate several of its smaller, less-utilized branches into regional libraries. The strategy is consistent with recommendations from a 1993 consultant study that suggested the majority of the existing branch libraries in the city be closed and library services centered at larger, regional facilities in the north, south, east and west sections of the city. Pursuant to the recommendations of the consultant, costs are included in the 2001 Adopted Budget to construct a new regional branch in the southern quadrant of the City.

Finance and Operations. The 2000 Budget provided funds for the Library to open several branches on Sundays. Library statistics show that the number of people utilizing the new hours are growing, and Library staff reports that those visiting on Sundays are new people whom the staff does not typically see during the week.

Major Service Levels				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Reference questions fielded	383,361	339,304	340,000	340,550
Registered borrowers	105,129	105,572	110,572	110,600
Program attendance	39,099	36,436	40,000	40,000

The 2000 Budget also includes additional funding for children's books and materials. In addition to the purchase of more books, the funds allow the Library to provide outreach programming. This programming includes having additional storytimes in Spanish in hopes of reaching more of the community. A Youth Outreach Librarian was recently hired, and plans for the position include encouraging children to visit the Library through outreach efforts at schools and various community events.



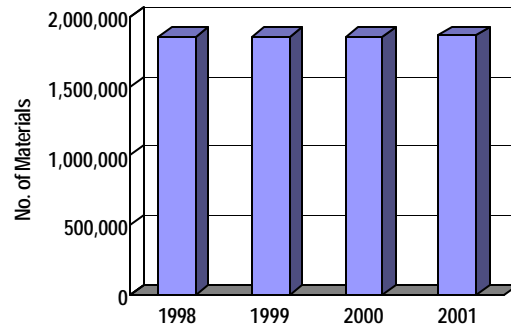
A Junior Volunteer at the Rockwell District Library assists with the Reading Club program for children.

The 2001 Budget reflects a 7.5% increase over the 2000 Adopted Budget. The increase is driven by a combination of new service enhancements that address the needs of young people and families, as well as the safety and security of library patrons, staff, and materials.

The budget again includes a \$100,000 allocation set aside in a contingency fund for additional children's books and programs. Funds are also included in the 2001 Adopted Budget to improve the speed and efficiency for patrons during checkout with new barcode scanners. A bookmobile is planned for startup in 2001, and will extend library service to entities not well served by fixed-location branches. Bookmobile service areas include facilities with sizable "captive" clientele, such as nursing homes and daycare centers.

Partial year operating costs for the new South Regional Branch Library, which is anticipated to open in mid-2002, are included in the 2002 Projected Budget.

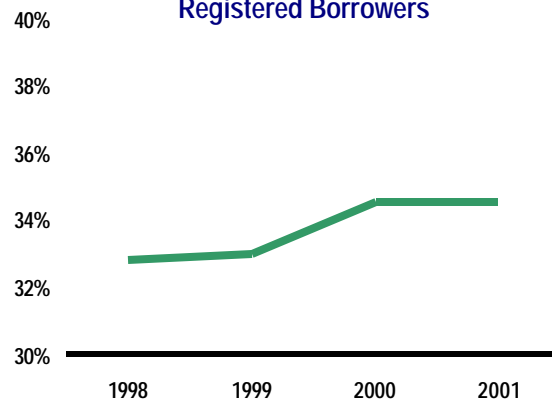
Annual Circulation



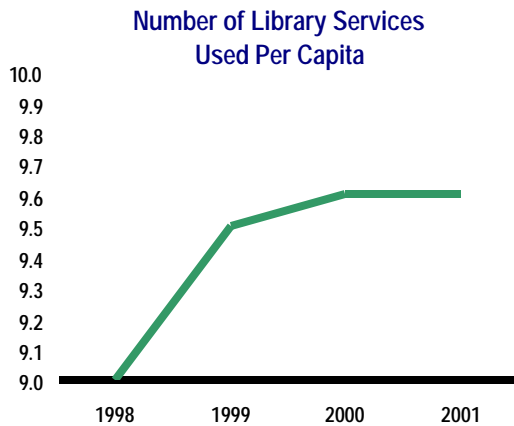
In 1999, the Wichita Public Library circulated 1.8 million library materials, responded to over 339,000 citizen reference inquiries, and registered almost 36,500 people in its various programs. Service levels are expected to remain steady in 2000 and 2001, with an emphasis on increasing the number of registered borrowers and boosting program attendance, particularly among young people.

Circulation averaged almost 6 items per capita in 1999, with an average cost of \$2.64 per item. In 1999, 33 percent of Wichita citizens were registered patrons of the City's library system. The percentage is expected to increase slightly in 2000 and 2001, due largely to target outreach efforts in Wichita public schools and in

Percent of Population Who Are Registered Borrowers



conjunction with cooperative programs administered within the school district. The outreach efforts complement new children's reading resources that are included in the budget.



Selected Performance Measures				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Circulation per capita	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8
# of Uses of Library services per capita	9.0	9.5	9.6	9.6
% of Population registered borrowers	32.8	33.0%	34.5%	34.5%
Program attendance per 1,000 population	122.1	113.7	124.8	127.7
Avg. cost per item circulated	\$2.72	\$2.64	\$2.90	\$2.90

With the new outreach services provided in the 2001 Adopted Budget, the Library will continue its outreach efforts to citizens. New audiences will be serviced due to the startup of the bookmobile, which will be complemented by the new South Regional Branch opening in 2002.

Library Budget Summary					
	1999 Actual	2000 Adopted	2000 Revised	2001 Adopted	2002 Approved
Personal Services	3,466,323	3,720,320	3,520,950	4,003,110	4,323,830
Contractual Services	722,491	719,410	720,540	731,590	745,190
Commodities	677,971	673,820	672,660	735,590	728,750
Capital Outlay	32	0	0	19,190	42,310
Other	0	100,000	100,000	114,750	148,360
Total General Fund Expenditures	4,866,817	5,213,550	5,014,150	5,604,230	5,988,440
Total Local Source Revenue	4,866,817	5,213,550	5,014,150	5,604,230	5,988,440
Total Grant Source Revenue	522,420	513,200	693,406	536,770	540,380
Total Operating Resources	5,389,237	5,726,750	5,707,556	6,141,000	6,528,820
Position Summary					
Total full-time (Locally funded)	82	83	83	85	88
Total part-time (Locally funded)	45	45	45	46	49
Total FTE (Locally funded)	104.5	105.5	105.5	108	112.5
Total FTE (Grant funded)	10.38	10.38	10.38	10.38	10.38